GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1564
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2015
Fruit Production
Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttarakhand and North-Eastern States are far behind in fruit production in comparison to Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir despite the fact that the topography and climatic conditions of these States are almost identical;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government has initiated any programme/scheme to increase the fruit production in these States which may further improve the economic condition of the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): As per the information available from the States, the State of Assam is the largest producer of Fruits during 2014-15 amongst the Northeast and Himalayan States and Uttarakhand is marginally higher in Fruit production as compared to Himachal Pradesh. The production of Fruits in these States during the said period is given at Annexure-I.

(b): Fruit production in Uttarakhand and other North-Eastern States is lesser since, the area under fruit crops is lower as compared to Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir. Other reasons are mono-cropping pattern and subsistence farming done in these States.

(c): The Government has initiated a number of programmes/schemes to increase the fruit production in these States which may further improve the economic condition of the farmer. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented during XII Plan w.e.f. 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector including fruits. Mission subsumes National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States (HMNEH), National Bamboo Mission (NBM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), Coconut Development Board (CDB) and Central Institute for Horticulture (CIH), Nagaland. All States including North Eastern states and UTs are covered under MIDH.